



**Directive**

**Restrictor and cleaning stays for Tilt-Only sashes and Tilt-Only fanlights**

Use of restrictor and cleaning stays ('FPKF')

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**Note:**

This directive's technical specifications and recommendations are based on current knowledge at the time of publication. The disclaimer contents on the above-mentioned web site apply.

# 1 Scope of this directive

This directive contains important information and mandatory instructions for use of restrictors and cleaning stays in Tilt-Only windows and Tilt-Only fanlights. It applies to hardware manufacturers and manufacturer of Tilt-Only sashes (fanlights).

## 2 Function and scope

### 2.1 Restrictor scissor-stays

Restrictor scissor-stays inhibit the uncontrolled tilting of the sash in the tilting direction, so that no damage to individuals, furnishings and surrounding components can occur.

### 2.2 Cleaning stays

Cleaning stays arrest the sash in a favourable and stable position, in which the outer side can be cleaned. The sash shall be guided into the cleaning position. With large dimensions and/or weights, this may need to be carried out by means of additional measures such as e.g. absorbers or brakes. After cleaning, the sash shall be securely brought back into the tilt-mode again. Ensure that the sash is properly hinged into the tilt-stays or the fanlight scissor-stays.

Only authorised persons may carry out such cleaning work. These people are to be instructed separately.

### 2.3 Restrictor and cleaning stays

Restrictor and cleaning stays can be operated after reaching the restricting position, in order to guide the sash into the cleaning position.

## 3 Basic legal principles and advice

### 3.1 Safety devices

Restrictor and cleaning stays are safety devices in accordance with the definition in EN 14351-1.

### 3.2 Restrictor scissor-stays

Compulsion to use restrictor scissor-stays in conjunction with a tilt-stay e.g. in a fanlight, can amongst other things, be derived from paragraph 3 of the German product liability law ('§3 ProdHaftG').

*German product liability law - 'ProdHaftG §3':*

*(1) A product is defective if it does not provide safety, taking all circumstances into account, including*

- a) its presentation*
- b) the use to which it could reasonably be expected that it would be put*
- c) the time when it was put into circulation or can be justifiably expected.*

When using tilt-stays in Tilt-Only sashes (fanlights) or fanlight openers (mechanical or electrical), one must expect within reason that the end-user cannot hold the sash when unhinging the tilt-stay or the fanlight opener; the sash can rotate and in the worst case is ripped out of its hinges, crashes and causes damage to property belonging to third parties, injures or even kills people. Furthermore one must expect within reason that after cleaning, the tilt-stay or the fanlight opener is not correctly hinged. The danger would be that this could lead to a more considerable hazard for the end-user (crushing or cutting off fingers on the bottom sash overlap, rotation of the sash and with it resulting head injuries for end-users, consequential damage on the sash itself and/or damage to property belonging to third parties or persons etc.).

On classical fanlight openers, there is a direct enforcement to use restrictor scissor-stays from the German RAL-RG 607/12 product standard. Manufacturers of fanlight hardware prescribe the additional use of restrictor scissor-stays. If fanlights with tilt-stays or fanlight openers are offered in which no restrictor scissor-stays can be used, appropriate measures must be agreed upon between the client and the supplier.

The restrictor scissor-stay's restricting position is larger than the projecting depth of the tilt-stay or of the fanlight opener.

### 3.3 Cleaning stays

The use of cleaning stays on Tilt-Only fanlights and generally on Tilt-Only windows is recommended and should be individually agreed upon. Compulsion to use cleaning stays cannot be derived from the current regulations.

## 4 Specified application

The stipulated application includes compliance with all specifications in the product specific documents such as:

- Product catalogues
- Application diagrams (max. sash sizes and weights)
- Installation instructions
- Operating/maintenance instructions
- Profile manufacturer information/specifications (e.g. for PVC or light metal profiles)
- The 'VHBH' (Guidelines/advice concerning product and liability) and 'VHBE' (Guidelines and advice for end users) directives from the Quality Assurance Association: locks and hardware
- Applicable national legislation and guidelines

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